



Juvenile Delinquency Court Assessment Project

PART A: 2006 CFCC COURT OPERATIONS SURVEY

Who should complete this survey?

This survey collects data on a wide range of topics concerning the administration of a California delinquency court, such as technology, hearings, and staffing. The survey should be filled out by the person who directly oversees the administration of the delinquency court.

If you have any questions regarding this survey, please contact Amy Bacharach at CFCC (415-865-7913). Thank you for your participation.

PLEASE SAVE THIS FILLABLE DOCUMENT BEFORE BEGINNING

1. What is your position in the court?

- ☐ Chief Executive Officer
- ☐ Clerk of the Court
- ☐ Court Administrator/Manager
- ☐ Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
- ☐ Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court
- ☐ Other: *Specify* _____

2. In what county are you located? _____

3. What is your court's usual case assignment procedure for delinquency court?
Check all that apply.

- ☐ Cases are assigned to judicial officers for the duration of the case prior to or at the time of the initial hearing
- ☐ Cases are assigned to judicial officers for the duration of the case after the initial hearing is complete
- ☐ Different judicial officers handle cases during different stages of the juvenile proceedings
- ☐ Other: *Specify* _____
- ☐ Do not know

4. Considering all courthouse locations, please check the top 3 delinquency courthouse features that need to be developed or improved.

- ☐ Holding cells for in-custody youth
- ☐ Secure path from holding cell to courtroom
- ☐ Waiting rooms for out-of-custody youth
- ☐ Supervised children's waiting rooms
- ☐ Juvenile hall that is near or at the courthouse
- ☐ Attorney-youth interview room
- ☐ Separate waiting area for victims
- ☐ Separate waiting area for witnesses
- ☐ Separate waiting area for youths' families
- ☐ Security at the front door
- ☐ Security inside each courtroom
- ☐ Video conferencing
- ☐ Cafeteria or vending machine area
- ☐ Other: *Specify* _____

5. Please indicate how satisfied you are with the following support for the delinquency court.

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	We do not have this at all
Number of courtroom clerks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Number of other clerk's office staff	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Number of case managers in courthouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Number of research attorneys	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Number of bailiffs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. For the following hearing types, please indicate how hearings are usually scheduled in your court.

	Full-day block	1/2-day block	Less than 1/2-day block	Time-certain scheduling	Varies too much to say	Not applicable
Detention	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Uncontested hearings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Contested hearings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Progress/Status reviews	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

7. Which of the following court operations tasks are performed or can be performed using your delinquency case management system? *Check all that apply.*

	Our system is capable of performing this task	We regularly use the system to perform this task
Assigning cases to judicial officers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scheduling hearings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flagging hearings that are out of compliance with timeliness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Producing completed minute orders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Producing blank minute orders to be filled in by hand	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Producing DOJ 8716 forms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Producing completed restraining orders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Producing case/daily calendars	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tracking physical location of hard copy files	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other: <i>Specify</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

8. Which of the following court management statistics are generated or can be generated using your delinquency case management system? *Check all that apply.*

	Our system is capable of generating these statistics	We regularly use our system to generate these statistics
Judicial caseload	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Judicial findings and orders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Timeliness of hearings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reasons for continuances	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other: <i>Specify</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

9. Can judicial officers or their clerks access any of the following automated systems? *Check all that apply.*

- ☐ Juvenile delinquency court case management system
- ☐ Juvenile dependency court case management system
- ☐ Criminal court case management system
- ☐ Child welfare agency system (CWS/CMS)
- ☐ Local probation department system
- ☐ County mental health records
- ☐ Sheriff or other local law enforcement
- ☐ CLETS restraining order system
- ☐ Other: *Specify* _____

10. How are parents informed that they may be responsible for costs arising out of their children's delinquency case (e.g. fines, fees, cost of restitution)? *Check all that apply.*

- ☐ Generally they are not informed of these costs
- ☐ Printed on the petition
- ☐ The judge tells them
- ☐ It is in our informational brochures/videos
- ☐ Another agency (e.g. probation, defense, prosecution) informs them
- ☐ Other: *Specify* _____
- ☐ Do not know

11. What types of orders are available to parties before they leave the courtroom? *Check all that apply.*

	Youth	Victim
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Minute orders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Restraining or stay away orders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Probation conditions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Notice of future hearing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

12. How does your court work towards improving customer service for parties involved in the delinquency process and members of the public? *Check all that apply.*

- ☐ The courthouse has a suggestion box and the court routinely reads submissions
- ☐ We periodically survey the public about their perceptions
- ☐ We hold public hearings where the public may discuss their concerns
- ☐ We have a formal grievance procedure that court users can access
- ☐ We train our court employees on respectfully working with the public
- ☐ We train our judicial officers on respectfully working with the public
- ☐ Performance reviews of court staff include the question of customer service
- ☐ Other: *Specify* _____

13. When does your court primarily use each of the following restorative procedures for resolving issues in juvenile delinquency proceedings? *Please choose one timeframe for each procedure.*

	Not available	As diversion	Before jurisdiction	Before disposition	Post disposition	Do not Know
Neighborhood accountability boards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Victim-offender mediation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family group conferencing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other: <i>Specify</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

14. Does your court use any of the following collaborative courts for resolving issues in juvenile delinquency proceedings? *Check all that apply.*

- ☐ Drug court
- ☐ Mental health court
- ☐ Peer court
- ☐ Truancy court
- ☐ Other: *Specify* _____

15. Does your court have an informal juvenile traffic court? If so, what kinds of cases does it handle? *Check all that apply.*

- ☐ No, we do not have an informal juvenile traffic court
- ☐ Traffic, except DUI & felonies
- ☐ Infractions
- ☐ Other select misdemeanors

16. In the last year, which of the following types of professionals have heard cases in informal juvenile traffic court? *Check all that apply.*

- ☐ Not applicable; we do not have an informal juvenile traffic court
- ☐ Judge
- ☐ Commissioner
- ☐ Referee
- ☐ Attorney (who does not have any of the above appointments)
- ☐ Probation officer
- ☐ Retired probation officer
- ☐ Other: *Specify* _____

17. When language interpreter services are needed, how often does your court provide them for the following people?

	Nearly Always or Always	Often	Sometimes	Occasionally	Never or Rarely	Don't know
Youth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parents/ Guardians	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Witnesses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Victims	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other: <i>Specify</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

18. Please list the top languages (up to 3) for which people coming into the delinquency courtroom need interpreters. For each language, how long does it take to find an interpreter when one is needed?

☐ Not applicable; we do not provide interpreter services

Language	Same Day	1-3 work days	4-5 work days	More than a week	Varies too much to say
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

19. Please list the top languages (up to 3) for which people coming into the delinquency courtroom need interpreters. For each language, how often are hearings postponed because an interpreter is not available?

☐ Not applicable; we do not provide interpreter services

Language	Nearly Always or Always	Often	Sometimes	Occasionally	Never or Rarely	Don't Know
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Crossover Processes

20. How well do you think your current process for handling cases that come within the jurisdiction of both the juvenile dependency and delinquency courts works to address the needs of children in your county?

Very well	Somewhat well	Not very well	Not well at all	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. Which of the following problems exist with your W & I 241.1(a) protocol? *Check all that apply.*

- ☐ None
- ☐ Returning children from probation to the dependency system
- ☐ Children are kept in delinquency placement longer than necessary
- ☐ Continuity of services for the child
- ☐ Continuity of services for the family
- ☐ Lack of consequences for the child
- ☐ Lack of probation oversight
- ☐ Appropriate services for children
- ☐ Lack of communication/coordination among child welfare, probation, and the court
- ☐ Lack of ongoing coordinated case assessment
- ☐ Net widening (more children entering the delinquency system)
- ☐ Lack of structured decision making
- ☐ Lack of consequences for the child
- ☐ Lack of services oversight
- ☐ Other: *Specify* _____

22. Has your county developed an AB 129 protocol (a written protocol under W & I 241.1(e) permitting a child who meets specified criteria to be designated as both a dependent child and a ward of the juvenile court)?

- ☐ Yes (Please stop here, you are finished with the survey)
- ☐ No (Continue to #23)

23. Has your county engaged in any discussions about implementing an AB 129 (W & I 241.1(e)) protocol?

- ☐ Yes (Continue to #24)
- ☐ No (Please stop here, you are finished with the survey)

24. What were the 3 most challenging issues or concerns that arose during those discussions? Please respond regardless of whether your county has actually developed a protocol.

- ☐ Allocation of responsibilities among the court and agencies
- ☐ General resources (e.g. services, staff)
- ☐ Allocation of IVE funds
- ☐ Information sharing
- ☐ How to identify or screen for appropriate cases
- ☐ ASFA issues
- ☐ Determining the most effective model
- ☐ Net widening (more children entering the delinquency system)
- ☐ Resistance from one of the parties required to sign off on the protocol
- ☐ Other: *Specify* _____

25. Has your county decided against implementing a protocol, or are discussions ongoing?

- ☐ Decided against implementing a protocol (Continue to #26)
- ☐ Discussions are ongoing (Please stop here, you are finished with the survey)
- ☐ Other: *Specify* _____

26. What is the primary reason your county has decided against implementing a protocol?
Please select one.

- ☐ Don't have enough cases to merit creating a protocol
- ☐ Could not gain buy in from all parties required to sign off on protocol
- ☐ Could not agree on specifics of how protocol would work
- ☐ Unsure how protocol would impact other state or federal requirements
- ☐ Other: *Specify* _____

Thank you for participating.

CFCC truly appreciates the time and effort that you have spent taking this survey. We will make the results available to you in reports generated by the Juvenile Delinquency Court Improvement Program Assessment, in other CFCC publications, and in upcoming trainings.

Please return by Friday, September 29, 2006 to:

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